

## **Arizona State Retirement System**

3300 North Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85012 WWW.AZASRS.GOV

## Fact Sheet

**Member Service Advisory Center** 

Phoenix (602) 240-2000 Tucson (520) 239-3100 Toll-free (800) 621-3778

## Withdrawal of Contributions and Termination of Membership

Upon separation from ASRS employment and withdrawal of your ASRS account balance, a member waives any and all rights to ASRS membership benefits. This includes:

**Pension** - Once you reach early-retirement or normal -retirement criteria, you are eligible for a lifetime pension or lump-sum benefit.

**Long-Term Disability** - If you are receiving benefits under the ASRS Long-Term Disability program and you withdraw your account balance, you will no longer be eligible to continue receiving LTD payments.

**Health Insurance after Retirement** - The ASRS offers a health insurance program to retired members. If you withdraw your account balance, you will not be eligible for ASRS health insurance when you reach retirement age. This includes health insurance, dental & vision insurance, and other benefits offered to retirees.

**Premium Benefit Program** - Retirees are eligible to receive a monthly Health Insurance Premium Benefit to help offset the high cost of retiree health insurance.

**Permanent Benefit Increases** - Retirees receiving a monthly pension annuity are eligible to receive a Permanent Benefit Increase. This is an annual adjustment to their benefit that is derived from excess earnings.

**Survivor Benefits** - If you have an account balance with the ASRS and you die before retirement, the account is paid as a death benefit to your beneficiary.

Members who choose to withdraw their account balance after terminating ASRS membership are entitled to all contributions they made, plus interest. The interest rate applied to account balances is set at 8 percent, the same as the ASRS assumed earnings rate. However, for purposes of withdrawal only, interest of 4 percent is applied to balances after July 1, 2005.

If a member has five or more years of credited service at the time they terminate ASRS membership, they are entitled to a share of the matching funds contributed by their employer. The following schedule applies:

Less than 5 years of credited service = 0% of employer contributions.

5.0 to 5.99 years = 25% of employer contributions

6.0 to 6.99 years = 40% of employer contributions

7.0 to 7.99 years = 55% of employer contributions

8.0 to 8.99 years = 70% of employer contributions

9.0 to 9.99 years = 85% of employer contributions

10 or more years of credited service = 100% of employer contributions